Sociology 3AC (Spring 2020)

REVISED SYLLABUS

Below is the revised syllabus for the remainder of the semester. The **assigned readings have been reduced** to adapt to the challenges related to the current coronavirus crisis and the switch to online instruction. Furthermore, the university has shifted to a P/NP grading system for this semester, which should significantly diminish the stress related to completing this course.

Pre-recorded lectures on the assigned readings will be made available to you **2 days prior** to the dates listed below. Lectures will be pre-recorded to ensure that all students are able to access them regardless of the quality or speed of their internet connections (as real time zoom lectures pose challenges for those with limited or weaker internet connections). You should view the lectures after having read the corresponding assigned readings.

As the course content will be delivered through these pre-recorded lectures, our class time will be allocated to **zoom sessions** (<u>https://zoom.us/download</u>) where I will answer any questions and we can discuss the assignment for that day. Participation in these zoom sessions is not required and is completely *optional*. The zoom sessions will serve as a kind of collective office hours where students who choose to can engage more with the course materials.

Given the current coronavirus crisis, it is crucial to provide flexibility for students with varying capacities over the coming weeks. Students with limited capacity can rely on pre-recorded lectures that will provide the basic course content and can be accessed anytime according to their own schedules and capacities. While students who are able and wish to engage more deeply with the course content can do so through the optional zoom discussions. Each of you will likely experience fluctuations in your capacities over the coming weeks, and you should proceed in the manner that best suits you at any given time.

The **pop quiz** requirement for the course has also been adjusted. The final pop quiz grade will be based on the 2 highest grades out of the 3 pop quizzes that have already been administered (including unpopped quiz 3 which is due on 3/30). After submitting unpopped quiz #3, the vast majority of you will have earned at least 2 A's, and thus have already earned full credit for your final pop quiz grade. Any students who do not have 2 A's, may contact me to do an alternative assignment to earn them. Hopefully relaxing the pop quiz requirement will help to alleviate unnecessary stress at this time.

Finally, adjustments have also been made for the remaining **exams** (see below for distribution and due dates). The original syllabus allocated 3 days for you to complete Exam 2, this will now be increased to 6 days. Furthermore, all assigned course readings during this time have been removed in order to allow you to exclusively focus on completing the exam. You will have 11 days to complete Exam 3. Finally, the substance and relative difficulty of the exams will be adjusted to accommodate for the challenges of online instruction. In other words, students cannot be expected to master the course materials as thoroughly as they would under normal conditions, and the exams will be adjusted with this in mind. Again, the shift to a P/NP grading system is intended to significantly diminish any anxiety or stress around these exams.

While our optional zoom sessions during our scheduled class time will provide you with the opportunity to ask questions and discuss course content, students needing to meet privately with me are welcome to contact me to schedule individual office hours. My hope is that these changes to our course will help in reducing any unnecessary stress during these difficult and challenging times. Any students with concerns about the course are encouraged to contact me so that we can resolve them together.

3/31 "Illegal Immigration" & Mass Incarceration

De Genova, Nicholas. "The Legal Production of Mexican/Migrant 'Illegality'" (Pp.41-55)

*Lecture will cover both the De Genova reading as well as a comparison of the analyses of "illegal immigration" in Part 2 with the analyses of mass incarceration from Part 1.

4/2 Mass Deportation

Golash-Boza, Tanya Maria. 2015. *Deported: Immigrant Policing, Disposable Labor, and Global Capitalism*. Preface and Excerpts of Introduction and Ch.3 (Pp.vii-x; 1-19; 94-95; 105-107)

4/7 "Global Apartheid"

Golash-Boza, Excerpts of Ch.5, Ch.6 and Conclusion (Pp.167-169; 199-203; 209-217; 256-265)

*Lecture will cover both the Golash-Boza reading as well as a discussion of the "common sense" assumptions about "illegal immigration" that served as an introduction for Part 2.

EXAM 2 distributed on 4/8 - DUE on Tuesday 4/14

4/9 NO ASSIGNMENT

*While there is no assigned reading for this day, I will be available during the scheduled zoom session to provide any necessary clarification on the exam.

PART 3: SURVEILLANCE

4/14 Surveillance

Viewing Assignment: Spying on the Homefront (2007) (https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/film/homefront/)

* There is no reading assignment, nor zoom session, on this day as students will be submitting Exam 2, but please watch the viewing assignment above (which will be discussed in the 4/16 lecture)

4/16 The History of Surveillance in the U.S.

Parenti, Christian. 2003. *The Soft Cage: Surveillance in America from Slavery to the War on Terror*. Chapters 1, 2 and 5 (Pp.1-32; 61-76)

*Lecture will cover the Parenti reading, the documentary "Spying on the Homefront" (assigned for 4/14), and the "common sense" assumptions about surveillance.

4/21 Surveillance in the "War on Terror" & the Right to "Privacy"

Parenti, Ch. 12 and 14 (Pp.169-182; 199-212)

4/23 New Surveillance Technologies: Risk Assessment

- Marx, Gary T. 2007. "What's new about the 'new surveillance'? Classifying for change and continuity" (Pp.83-89)
- Ferguson, Andrew Guthrie. 2017. *The Rise of Big Data Policing: Surveillance, Race and the Future of Law Enforcement.* (Pp.7-12; 34-40; 42-44; 47-52)
- Angwin, Julia, Jeff Larson, Surya Mattu and Lauren Kirchner. "Machine Bias: There's software used across the country to predict future criminals. And it's biased against blacks." (https://www.propublica.org/article/machine-bias-risk-assessments-in-criminalsentencing).

4/28 New Surveillance Technologies: Spatial Predictive Policing

- Ferguson, Excerpts of Ch.4 "Where we Police: Placed-Based Predictive Policing" (Pp.62-67; 72-76; 88-90)
- Lum, Kristian and William Isaac. "To Predict and Serve?" (https://hrdag.org/publications/to-predict- and-serve/).
- Easter, Brandee and Tori Thompson Peters. "White Collar Crime Risk Zones" (http://www.digitalrhetoriccollaborative.org/2017/09/19/white-collar-crime-risk-zones/)

4/30 CONCLUSION: From "Common Sense" to Sociological Analysis

Alexander, Michelle. "The Newest Jim Crow." (<u>https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/08/opinion/sunday/criminal-justice-reforms-race-technology.html</u>)

*No lecture for 4/30 but I will be available during the scheduled zoom session to provide any necessary clarification on the exam.

EXAM 3 distributed on 4/30 - DUE on Monday 5/11